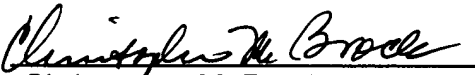


REMARKS

The first sentence of the specification has been amended to recite the claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. Section 119. The certified copy of German priority document No. 198 10 240.2 is enclosed herewith. Favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 21, 2004

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